

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 L-03 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 SNM-02

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5850

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 4860

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CFED (AUSTRIAN-US CUSTOMS AGREEMENT), ET, AU

SUBJ: NEGOTIATION OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN US AND
AUSTRIAN CUSTOMS SERVICES

REF: STATE 129798

1. EMBOFF RELAYED US OFFER TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA
ON JUNE 16 TO DR. KARL FUCHS IN AUSTRIAN CUSTOMS
ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE MINISTRY, THIS MORNING (JUNE 5).
FUCHS INDICATED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OPEN
NEGOTIATIONS THAT SOON SINCE FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE
AUTHORIZED BY AUSTRIAN CABINET AND REQUIRE PRIOR COORDINA-
TION WITH OTHER MINISTRIES, INCLUDING FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
JUSTICE, INTERIOR AND POSSIBLY OTHERS. FUCHS ALSO SAID
AUSTRIANS PRESENTLY IN PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING SIMILAR
AGREEMENT WITH ITALY. HE INDICATED THAT EARLIEST TIME
AUSTRIANS COULD ENTER FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH US WOULD
BE IN FALL, PROBABLY NOT BEFORE OCTOBER.

2. FUCHS INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE AND DR. WALTER
SCHAMP OF FINANCE MINISTRY COULD MEET WITH US REPS FOR
PURELY INFORMAL AND PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS HERE ON
JUNE 16 AND 17, IF THIS IS AGREEABLE. (AUSTRIAN REPS
WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE BALANCE OF THAT WEEK.) BASIS
FOR THESE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE US DRAFT
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AGREEMENT WHICH EMBASSY HAS PASSED TO CUSTOMS AUTHORI-

TIES. FUCHS EMPHASIZED THAT SAID TALKS COULD NOT BE
REGARDED IN ANY SENSE AS NEGOTIATIONS AND WOULD DEAL WITH
QUESTIONS OF CLARIFICATION OF POINTS IN US DRAFT, AND
PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: ADVISE SOONEST IF US OFFICIALS
WISH TO MEET HERE WITH GOA REPS ON JUNE 16 AND 17 UNDER
TERMS OUTLINED ABOVE.BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

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